CLAIMS

1. A system for assigning human resources to tasks in a project plan, comprising:

a database of people, wherein each person in the database includes an associated set of role capabilities;

a plan analysis system that analyzes the project plan and determines all of the roles required for the project plan;

a matching system which, for each role, identifies a subset of people from the database who are capable of fulfilling the role;

a selection system which, for each role, selects at least one person from the identified subset of people to fulfill the role; and

an allocation system that assigns people to a list of tasks for the project plan, wherein each task specifies at least one role, and each role specifies the at least one person selected to fulfill the role.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the selection system comprises a graphical user interface that allows a planner to select the at least one person.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the selection system comprises a system for splitting roles when multiple people are selected to fulfill a single role.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein the roles are split based on time.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein by default, the roles are split equally among the multiple people selected to fulfill the single role.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the matching system identifies the subset of people based on the role capabilities of the people in the database.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein each person in the database further includes an associated set of attributes selected from the group consisting of: geographic location and division within an organization.

8. A method for assigning human resources to tasks in a project plan, comprising:

providing a database of people, wherein each person in the database includes an associated set of role capabilities;

analyzing the project plan to determine all of the roles required for the project plan;

for each role, identifying a subset of people from the database who are capable of fulfilling the role;

for each role, selecting at least one person from the identified subset of people to fulfill the role; and

assigning people to a list of tasks for the project plan, wherein each task specifies at least one role, and each role specifies the at least one person selected to fulfill the role.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the selection step is achieved via a graphical user interface by a planner to select the at least one person.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the selection step comprises automatically splitting a single role among multiple people when multiple people are selected to fulfill the single role.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the role is split based on time.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein by default, the role is split equally among the multiple people selected to fulfill the single role.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the subset of people is identified based on the role capabilities of the people in the database.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the subset of people is further identified based on attributes selected from the group consisting of: geographic location and division in the organization.

15. A program product stored on a recordable medium for assigning resources to tasks in a project plan, comprising:

means for analyzing the project plan to determine all of the roles required for the project plan;

means for identifying a subset of resources for each role, wherein each resource in a given subset is capable of fulfilling the associated role;

means for selecting at least one resource from each subset of resources to fulfill the associated role; and

means for assigning resources to a list of tasks for the project plan, wherein each task specifies at least one role, and each role specifies the at least one resource selected to fulfill the role.

16. The program product of claim 15, wherein the resources comprise human resources.

17. The program product of claim 16, further comprising means for splitting a role among multiple people when multiple people are selected to fulfill the role.

18. The program product of claim 17, wherein the splitting means allocates an amount of time to each of the multiple people.

19. The program product of claim 18, wherein the amount of time is split equally among all of the multiple people.

20. The program product of claim 18, wherein the amount of time split among the multiple people is determined based on an input from a planner.

21. The program product of claim 17, wherein the selecting means comprises a graphical user interface.